



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

## Meeting Agenda

### Town Council

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340-4394  
Town Clerk (860)441-6640  
Town Manager (860)441-6630

*Mayor Harry A. Watson, Councilors Peter J. Bartinik, Jr., Heather Sherman Bond, Catherine Kolnaski,  
Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Rita M. Schmidt, John F. Scott, Paulann H. Sheets, and James L. Streeter.*

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

### REGULAR MEETING

#### I. ROLL CALL

#### II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

#### III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

2007-0201 Proclamation Recognizing Citizenship Day

Proclamation - TC

2007-0215 Proclamation Recognizing Senior Center Week

Proclamation - TC

#### IV. CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

This is the portion of the Council Agenda where the Council welcomes comments from citizens. Each presentation should be limited to ten minutes or less, and citizens should, if possible, submit written comments. Presentations should be related to matters pertinent to Groton. Town Councilors will only ask questions in order to clarify the speaker's presentation and can respond during the Responses to Citizens' Petitions portion of the Town Council meeting. Citizens should make their presentations from the lectern and state their names and addresses for the record.

#### V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

#### VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under Item VI (Consent Calendar) are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion of these items will take place, unless cause is shown prior to the time Council votes on the motion to adopt.

##### a. Approval of Minutes

2007-0216 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

Resolution - Consent

##### RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of September 4, 2007 are hereby accepted and approved.

##### b. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2006-0239 Animal Shelter

Referral

2007-0022 Senior Center Expansion

Referral

2007-0211 Panhandling Ordinance

Referral

2007-0214 Proposed Aquarion Rate Increase

Referral

2007-0191 Reuse of Groton Heights School

Referral

2007-0221 Appointment of Louise Page to Board of Assessment Appeals

Resolution

2007-0222 Reappointment of David Scott to the Inland Wetlands Agency

Resolution

2007-0223	Reappointment of Robert Ashworth to the Inland Wetlands Agency	Resolution
2007-0224	Appointment of Helen Rush Giordano to Jabez Smith House Committee	Resolution
2007-0225	Reappointment of Members of the Jabez Smith House Committee	Resolution

#### **c. Special Trust Fund Contributions**

2007-0208	Special Trust Fund Contributions	Resolution - Consent
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##### **RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS**

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Enza Vignato - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Michelle Pasqualini - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Kimberly Kerst - \$15.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Peggy Pearse - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Jeffrey and Mary Labasi - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Mark and John Schafer - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Kristin and Robert Fairbank - \$40.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Lloyd and Kelly Morales - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Bruce and Kathleen Flax - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Peter and Lori Bartinik - \$25.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Groton Parks Foundation - \$38,419.63 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Various Donations - \$850.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Sharon Hollay - \$100.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Maureen LaMontagne - \$100.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Susan and David Eldridge - \$100.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Various Donations - \$501.54 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program (GAP)

#### **d. Tax Refund**

2007-0217	Tax Refund	Resolution - Consent
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##### **RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX REFUND**

WHEREAS, the following, for the reason indicated, has overpaid taxes in the amount specified, and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended the amount be refunded, be it

RESOLVED, that the tax refund indicated below is hereby approved.

G E Burlington - \$4,725.16 - Excess payment

G E Burlington - \$86.88 - Excess Payment

### **VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)**

- a. Town Councilors**
- b. Representative Town Meeting**
- c. Clerk of the Council**
- d. Town Manager**
- e. Town Attorney**

### **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman O'Beirne**

- b. Economic Development - Chairman Bond**
- c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Kolnaski**
- d. Environment & Recreation - Chairman Sheets**
- e. Finance - Chairman Schmidt**
- f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman Scott**
- g. Public Safety - Chairman Streeter**
- h. Public Works - Chairman Bartinik**
- i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Watson**

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**2007-0191 Reuse of Groton Heights School**

**Referral**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING GROTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL REUSE TASK FORCE**

WHEREAS, prior to the beginning of this school year the Groton Board of Education decided that Groton Heights School Facility was no longer needed for school purposes and the building was turned over to the Town, and

WHEREAS, the Town has received a number of inquiries concerning the reuse of this building, and

WHEREAS, Groton Heights is located within a residential area and is adjacent to two institutional uses including the Bill Memorial Library and Fort Griswold, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Council to make sure that the reuse of this building is in keeping with the surrounding neighborhood, community needs, and in the best interest of the entire community, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council wishes to appoint a Groton Heights School Reuse Task Force including:

1. A representative from the Town Council.
2. A representative from the City Council.
3. A representative from the RTM.
4. A representative from the Board of Education.
5. A representative from the City Planning and Zoning Commission.
6. A representative from the Bill Memorial Library
7. A representative representing the interests of Fort Griswold.
8. Two representatives from the surrounding neighborhood.
9. A representative from the community at large.

and be it further,

RESOLVED, that a Technical Advisory Board be established to assist with the necessary technical advice and assistance consisting of Town/City staff and others as necessary, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the tasks of the Reuse Task Force are:

1. To determine the statutory and other limitations that are placed on the Groton Heights property.

2. Inventory community needs that could be accommodated at Groton Heights.
3. Make a recommendation as to whether or not the property should be permanently disposed of as surplus and/or whether or not the building should be reused to meet other public needs or if the space should be leased to an outside concern.
4. If the property is to be disposed of, to recommend a plan to solicit reuse proposals for Town Council review and action.

**Legislative History**

8/9/2007 Mayor Referred Town Council Committee of the W

8/14/2007 Town Council Committee of Discussed  
the Whole

*The Groton Heights School has been turned over to the Town and the building and grounds were left in good shape. The Town Manager has received inquiries regarding the property. He noted that any reuse of the property may need zoning consideration from the City of Groton. The Council may want to establish a reuse committee. There was an inquiry from Human Services regarding the building, but no other Town use has been identified. It is a sound structure, but it is not handicapped accessible. The Town Manager feels it is a "keeper" building that would be suitable for an adaptive reuse. Councilor Kolnaski suggested that the building be used for the Groton Historical Society. Some interest has also been expressed by DEP (Fort Griswold).*

*Discussion followed on the possible membership for a reuse committee, and not pre-supposing a use for the site that would then influence committee membership. Town Manager Oefinger indicated he would send out letters of interest and the Council can reconsider this issue in a month.*

8/28/2007 Town Council Committee of Discussed  
the Whole

*Town Manager Oefinger has attempted to speak with interested parties including the Bill Memorial Library, whose board has not discussed reuse of their portion of the property, although they have expressed interest in working with the Town and increasing patronage of the library. Mayor Popp has indicated no specific City use, but he would want the City to be involved in any reuse committee. The Town Manager is still attempting to contact DEP.*

*Discussion followed on committee membership and the consensus of the Council was to ask the Town Manager to propose membership for a Groton Heights School Reuse Committee.*

9/11/2007 Town Council Committee of Discussed  
the Whole

*The Council received a suggested resolution prepared by the Town Manager with proposed membership for a Groton Heights School Reuse Committee.*

9/11/2007 Town Council Committee of Recommended for a  
the Whole Resolution

2007-0221 Appointment of Louise Page to Board of Assessment Appeals Resolution

RESOLUTION APPOINTING LOUISE PAGE TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

RESOLVED, that Louise K. Page, 58 Warner Street, is appointed as a member of the Board of Assessment Appeals for a term ending 12/31/08.

**Legislative History**

9/11/2007 Town Council Recommended for a  
Personnel/Appointments/Rules Resolution  
/Legislation Committee

2007-0222 Reappointment of David Scott to the Inland Wetlands Agency Resolution

REAPPOINTMENT OF DAVID SCOTT TO THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY

RESOLVED, that David R.Scott, 191 Pequot Avenue, Mystic is hereby reappointed to the Inland Wetlands Agency for a term expiring 12/31/08.

**Legislative History**

- 9/11/2007      Town Council      Recommended for a  
Personnel/Appointments/Rules      Resolution  
/Legislation Committee
- 2007-0223      **Reappointment of Robert Ashworth to the Inland Wetlands Agency**      **Resolution**

REAPPOINTMENT OF ROBERT ASHWORTH AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY

RESOLVED, that Robert L. Ashworth, 39 Whitney Road, Mystic, is hereby appointed as an alternate to the Inland Wetlands Agency for a term expiring 12/31/08.

Legislative History

- 9/11/2007      Town Council      Recommended for a  
Personnel/Appointments/Rules      Resolution  
/Legislation Committee
- 2007-0224      **Appointment of Helen Rush Giordano to Jabez Smith House Committee**      **Resolution**

RESOLUTION OF CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF HELEN RUSH GIORDANO TO THE JABEZ SMITH HOUSE COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, a Town Council resolution of September 20, 1994, provided that the Town Manager may appoint members of the Jabez Smith House Committee with the consent of the Town Council, and

WHEREAS, the Town Manager desires to appoint Helen Rush Giordano, 10 Plymouth Court, to a term ending 9/7/08, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby consents to the appointment of Helen Rush Giordano to the Jabez Smith House Committee for a term ending 9/7/08.

Legislative History

- 9/11/2007      Town Council      Recommended for a  
Personnel/Appointments/Rules      Resolution  
/Legislation Committee
- 2007-0225      **Reappointment of Members of the Jabez Smith House Committee**      **Resolution**

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE JABEZ SMITH HOUSE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, that the following members are hereby reappointed to the Jabez Smith House Committee, for terms expiring as noted:

Lorraine Santangelo, 331 Tyler Avenue - 9/7/10  
Jeffrey T. Blevens, 17 Ashby Street, Mystic - 9/7/10  
Richard D. Dixon, 15 Route 27, Old Mystic - 9/7/10  
Andrew W. German, 42 West Mystic Avenue, Mystic - 9/7/08  
John C. McGee, 95 Sound Breeze Avenue, Groton Long Point - 9/7/10  
Arlene M. Stamm, 20 Smith Street, Noank - 9/7/10

Legislative History

- 9/11/2007      Town Council      Recommended for a  
Personnel/Appointments/Rules      Resolution  
/Legislation Committee

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

